

APPLICANT'S INVENTION

Applicant's invention relates to a reflective warning and locating collar for fire hydrants, pylons and support posts to improve their visibility and identity, the collar having a support member defined by a flexible extruded web having flanges along the longitudinal edges to define a channel slot for receipt of an elongate flexible reflective member in web form slidably receivable within the channel, the ends of the reflective member and support member having a plurality of alignable apertures for receipt of a fastening means.

THE REJECTION

Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112 as being indefinite for failure to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hughes, Jr. in view of Mohs.

Claims 6-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Blackman, et al. in view of Mohs and Hughes, Jr.

DISCUSSION

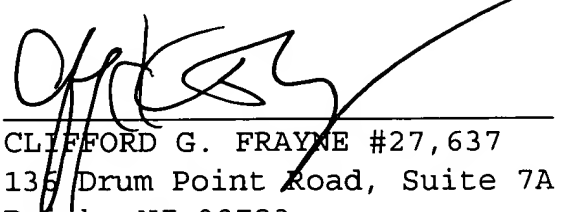
Applicant has amended the claims to overcome the Examiner's rejection pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §112 to place the claims in

condition for consideration on appeal.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES

1. A reflective warning and locating collar for fire hydrants, pylons or support posts, said reflective warning and locating collar comprising:

a support member having an elongated, flexible, extruded web having a first side and a second side, defined by two parallel longitudinal edges and a first end and a second end, said web having flanges depending from said longitudinal edges of said first side of said web, said flanges terminating with inwardly turned second flanges parallel to said web thereby defining a channel between said web and said inwardly turned second flanges from said first end of said support member to said second end of said support member;

a reflective member comprised of an elongate flexible web slidably receivable and retainable within said channel, said support member and said reflective member having a plurality of alignable apertures proximate [their said] the ends for alignment and receipt of a fastening means so as to permit said support member and said reflective member to be circumscribably engaged about a fire hydrant, pylon or support post forming a reflective

warning and locating collar.

2. The reflective warning and locating collar in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said support member is fabricated from a weather resistant polymer.

3. The reflective warning and locating collar in accordance with Claim 1 wherein said reflective member is bonded to a substrate, said substrate and said reflective member slidably receivable within said channel of said support member.

6. A fire hydrant having an identifiability member comprising:

a fire hydrant having a generally vertically tubular member extending upwardly from the ground and in communication with a source of water, a plurality of hose connections extending perpendicularly outwardly from said tubular vertical member, said hose connections having cap members affixed thereto and said tubular vertical member having a cap member affixed to a top end, said cap member incorporating a valve actuator, said identifiability member comprising a reflective warning and locating collar circumscribably engaged about said fire hydrant said reflective warning and locating collar comprising a support member having an elongated, flexible extruded web having a first

side and a second side, defined by two parallel longitudinal edges and a first end and a second end, said web having flanges depending from said longitudinal edges of said first side of said web, said flanges terminating with inwardly turned second flanges parallel to said web thereby defining a channel between said web and said inwardly turned second flanges from said first end of said support member to said second end of said support member, a reflective member comprised of an elongate flexible web slidably receivable and retainable within said channel, said support member and said reflective member having a plurality of alignable apertures proximate [their said] the ends for alignment and receipt of a fastening means so as to permit said support member and said reflective member to be circumscribably engaged about said fire hydrant.

7. The fire hydrant in accordance with Claim 6 wherein said reflective warning and locating collar support member is fabricated from a weather resistant polymer.

8. The fire hydrant in accordance with Claim 6 wherein a second reflective warning and locating collar is positioned about said fire hydrant beneath said extending hose connections.